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OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW
OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATIONS
WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
First session
20-24 June 1994
Agenda item 5

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ITS FIRST SESSION

Chapter ___

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations held its first session from 20 to ___ June 1994, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/80. The Working Group held ___ meetings.

B. Agenda and organization of work

2. At its first meeting, on 20 June, the Working Group considered its provisional agenda, contained in document E/AC.70/1994/2, which had been approved by the Working Group at its organizational session, and which read as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

2. Accreditation of non-governmental organizations to participate in the work of the Working Group.

3. General review of arrangements for consultations with non-governmental organizations.

4. Examination of ways and means of improving practical arrangements for the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit of the Secretariat.

5. Adoption of the report of the Working Group on its first session.

3. Before the adoption of the provisional agenda, the Chairman, in his introductory statement, proposed that at its first session, the Working Group should focus on agenda item 3, "General review of arrangements for consultations with non-governmental organizations". The programme of work for the first session would consist of several meetings devoted to a general debate and thematic discussions on the following issues:

(a) Issues arising from experience in the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV);

(b) Review of the categories of status of non-governmental organizations;

(c) Consultative arrangements and accreditation to United Nations world conferences;

(d) Experience gained from the Commission on Sustainable Development;

(e) Problems and bottlenecks faced by non-governmental organizations under the present arrangements.

The Chairman would prepare a summary of the debate and the thematic discussions, which would be included in the report of the Working Group on its first session. At its next session, the Working Group would focus on agenda item 4, "Examination of ways and means of improving practical arrangements for the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit of the Secretariat".

4. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted the provisional agenda, and approved the organization of work of the session as presented by the Chairman of the Working Group.

C. Adoption of the draft report of the Working Group on its organizational session

5. At its 1st meeting, on 20 June, the Working Group had before it for its consideration the draft report of the Working Group on its organizational session, contained in document E/AC.70/1994/3.

6. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted the draft report.

D. Documentation

7. The Working Group had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Working with non-governmental organizations: operational activities for development of the United Nations system with non-governmental organizations and Governments at the grass-roots and national levels" and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/49/122-E/1994/44 and Add.1);

(b) Annotated provisional agenda (E/AC.70/1994/2);

(c) Report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations on its organizational session (E/AC.70/1994/3);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the accreditation of non-governmental organizations to participate in the work of the Working Group (E/AC.70/1994/4);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the general review of arrangements for consultations with non-governmental organizations (E/AC.70/1994/5 and Add.1);

(f) Statement submitted by the World Federation of United Nations Associations, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I (E/AC.70/1994/NGO/1);

(g) Statement submitted by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I (E/AC.70/1994/NGO/2);

(h) Statement submitted by the International Council of Jewish Women, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II (E/AC.70/1994/NGO/3);

(i) Statement submited by the International Chamber of Commerce, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I (E/AC.70/1994/NGO/4);

(j) Statement submitted by the International Federation of Associations of the Elderly, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, catetory I (E/AC.70/1994/NGO/5);

(k) Statement submitted by the World Federation of United Nations Associations, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I, on behalf of the Conference on Non-Government Organizations (CONGO) (E/AC.70/1994/NGO/6).

E. Participation

[A list of participants will be included in the final report.]

Chapter ___

ACCREDITATION OF NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE WORKING GROUP

8. The Working Group considered agenda item 2, "Accreditation of non-governmental organizations to participate in the work of the Working Group", at its 1st and 4th meetings, on 20 and 21 June 1994.

9. For its consideration of the item, the Working Group had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the accreditation of non-governmental organizations to participate in the work of the Working Group (E/AC.70/1994/4), the annex to which contained a list of non-governmental organizations that did not fall under any of the categories enumerated in paragraph 2 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/80 of 30 July 1993.

10. At its 1st meeting, on 20 June, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, Costa Rica, India, Ireland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada and the United States of America.

11. At the same meeting, the Working Group approved the list of organizations contained in the annex to document E/AC.70/1994/4.

12. At the 4th meeting, on 21 June, a statement was made by the representative of India.